

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2147

Introduced by Assembly Member V. Manuel Perez

February 18, 2010

An act to amend Section 2333.5 of the Streets and Highways Code, relating to transportation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2147, as introduced, V. Manuel Perez. Safe Routes to School Construction Program.

Existing law requires the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Department of the California Highway Patrol, to establish and administer a “Safe Routes to School” construction program pursuant to authority granted under specified federal law and to use federal transportation funds for construction of bicycle and pedestrian safety and traffic calming projects. Existing law requires the department to make grants available to local agencies under the program through a competitive grant process that considers various factors in rating the proposals.

This bill would additionally require, in rating a proposal, the consideration of the proposal’s benefit to a disadvantaged community, as defined.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 2333.5 of the Streets and Highways Code
- 2 is amended to read:

1 2333.5. (a) The department, in consultation with the
2 Department of the California Highway Patrol, shall establish and
3 administer a “Safe Routes to School” construction program for
4 construction of bicycle and pedestrian safety and traffic calming
5 projects.

6 (b) The department shall award grants to local governmental
7 agencies under the program based on the results of a statewide
8 competition that requires submission of proposals for funding and
9 rates those proposals on all of the following factors:

10 (1) Demonstrated needs of the applicant.

11 (2) Potential of the proposal for reducing child injuries and
12 fatalities.

13 (3) Potential of the proposal for encouraging increased walking
14 and bicycling among students.

15 (4) Identification of safety hazards.

16 (5) Identification of current and potential walking and bicycling
17 routes to school.

18 (6) Consultation and support for projects by school-based
19 associations, local traffic engineers, local elected officials, law
20 enforcement agencies, school officials, and other relevant
21 community stakeholders.

22 (7) *Benefit to a disadvantaged community, as defined in Section*
23 *79505.5 of the Water Code.*

24 (c) Any annual budget allocation to fund grants described in
25 subdivision (b) shall be in addition to any federal funding received
26 by the state that is designated for “Safe Routes to School” projects
27 pursuant to Section 1404 of SAFETEA-LU or any similar program
28 funded through a subsequent transportation act.

29 (d) Any federal funding received by the state that is designated
30 for “Safe Routes to School” projects shall be distributed by the
31 department under the competitive grant process, consistent with
32 all applicable federal requirements.

33 (e) Prior to the award of any construction grant or the
34 department’s use of those funds for a “Safe Routes to School”
35 construction project encompassing a freeway, state highway or
36 county road, the department shall consult with, and obtain approval
37 from, the Department of the California Highway Patrol, ensuring
38 that the “Safe Routes to School” proposal compliments the
39 California Highway Patrol’s Pedestrian Corridor Safety Program

- 1 and is consistent with its statewide pedestrian safety statistical
- 2 analysis.
- 3 (f) The department is encouraged to coordinate with law
- 4 enforcement agencies' community policing efforts in establishing
- 5 and maintaining the "Safe Routes to School" construction program.

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